

East Germany Approved For Release 2001/11/21 : CIA-RDP80-00810A000300030008-2

COUNTRY	East Germany
TOPIC	Oranienburg Airfield
	25X1A
EVALUATION	
DATE OF CONTACT	
DATE OBTAINED	
REFERENCES	
PAGES	3
ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS	

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1. On 29 November 1952, concreting work at Oranienburg airfield was discontinued because of the frost. On 3 December, the concrete mixers and the material were covered with snow. On 9 December, [REDACTED] 25X1X that the eastern edge of the southern extension of the runway was concreted in a width of 4 meters and that some concrete slabs were laid to the middle of the runway. One concrete mixer was at the construction site, while the second mixing machine could no longer be observed. No work was being done on the construction site. Only a few workers were observed and two narrow-gauge field railway locomotives were in operation. On 15 December, work was in progress on the southern extension of the runway where the newly concreted lanes were immediately covered with straw mats. About 40 men were observed at the construction site. No night work was done.
2. On 3 December, nine workers placed poles for a fence along the canal in the northeastern corner of the field. On 8 December, a strip of 150 meters was lined by a wire fence. Additional poles for the fence lay on the ground. No work was being done on the fence on 8 December. On 15 December, the wire fence extended along the eastern side of the field from the railroad crossing as far as Wilhelminenhof. Eight men were stringing the wire.
3. On 26 December, sections of the concrete on the southern extension of the runway had not settled and had to be removed because of the frost. The removed concrete was piled up at the side of the runway.
4. As no essential changes were observed in the amount of washing turned in to the laundry in Oranienburg between 1 and 7 December, [REDACTED] 25X1X the strength of the air force unit in the Weisse Stadt Settlement was not changed.

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5. In mid-December, work continued on the fence around the field. On 16 December, the fence extended from the entrance gate along Richthofen Strasse toward the east as far as the railroad line to Kremmen, along this railroad line as far as the canal, along the canal as far as Birken Allee, and along Birken Allee as far as the barrier of Wilhelminenhof. Sentries, 2.5 meters apart, were posted along the wire fence.
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6. On 8 December, [REDACTED] the number of laborers was reduced because of insufficient work during the frost period. Some of the workers were allegedly transferred to Schorfheide.
25X1X [REDACTED] no work had been done at the field during the period from 21 December to 5 January. A storekeeper said that, on 16 December, 60 Soviet Air Force personnel were transferred from Schorfheide to Oranienburg where they were quartered in the restricted Weisse Stadt Settlement. On 17 December, 10 men wearing black-bordered blue epaulets worked in the hangar at the field.
7. In mid-December, repair work was in progress on the heating and water installations in the Weisse Stadt Settlement which was occupied by artillery soldiers. A pipe layer received instructions from two Soviet officers who came from Neuruppin and repeatedly appeared in the restricted area after 1 December. On 9 December, source observed that one of the two officers was a major with tank insignia.
8. Two or three civilians guarded the entrance to the field at the Ernst Thaelmann Strasse and Erzberger Strasse. These guards requested to see the passes from the persons who entered the field. One of them said that he received his pay from the Soviets. On 11 December, trucks [REDACTED] 25X1C [REDACTED] were loaded with pipes which had been dug out at the field. According to an employee at the field, these pipes were to be hauled to the Schorfheide airfield. On 13 December, trucks 25X1C [REDACTED] each occupied by four men wearing black-bordered blue epaulets, were parked in front of the hangar. Sedan [REDACTED] was 25X1C parked in this hangar.
9. On 11 December, the trade union leader spoke to the work force at the field and drew up a resolution against the West German Government in the name of the 600 workers employed at the field.
10. Between 4 and 12 December, except on 9 and 12 December, no concreting was done because of the weather.
11. Prior to 12 December, poles for the fence were emplaced along the eastern field border and along the Schwarzen Weg as far as Annahof. Work continued on the wire fence.
12. In the second half of December, a store-keeper entered the field and learned from the Soviet construction staff that construction work was to be resumed in favorable weather. [REDACTED] learned that the construction staff had been ordered to complete work on the runways and taxiways and grading work by 5 April 1953. Subsequently, six high buildings were allegedly planned to be built.
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Comment. Construction work at Oranienburg airfield was considerably hindered by frost. Only a few workers who were still employed at the field were engaged in construction work on the fence and concreting on the southern extension of the runway. The target date for the completion of the main runway, which was fixed on 1 December 1952, was not kept. [REDACTED] The information that sub-surface constructions are to be completed by 5 April 1953 is interesting. The construction of six high buildings is reported for the first time. It has been reported that a second hangar will be erected.

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